

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of manufacturing a superconducting wire, comprising the steps of:

providing a drawn wire formed by coating raw material powder for a superconductor with a metal,

rolling said wire after said step of providing a drawn wire, and

sintering said wire after said step of rolling,

wherein at least one interval between (i) said step of providing a drawn wire and said step of rolling or (ii) between said step of rolling and said step of sintering, is less than seven days;

setting the temperature of a heater adapted to provide heat to said wire such that said wire is maintained at a substantially constant temperature between greater than or equal to 80 °C and less than or equal to 300 °C for the entire duration of the at least one interval of less than seven days;

wherein the at least one interval is three days; and wherein maintaining the temperature of the wire at a substantially constant temperature during the at least one interval occurs for three days.

2. (Cancelled).

3. (Currently Amended) A method of manufacturing a superconducting wire, comprising the steps of:

providing a drawn wire formed by coating raw material powder for a superconductor with a metal,

rolling said wire n times, wherein n is an integer greater than or equal to 2, and

sintering said wire n times,

wherein the step of first rolling in said step of rolling said wire n times is performed after said step of providing a drawn wire ,

the step of first sintering in said step of sintering said wire n times is performed after said step of the first rolling,

the step of kth rolling, wherein k is an integer greater than or equal to 2, in said step of

rolling said wire n times is performed after the step of (k-1)-th sintering in said step of sintering said wire n times,

the step of kth sintering in said step of sintering said wire n times is performed after the step of the kth rolling in said step of rolling said wire n times,

at least one interval between (i) said step of providing a drawn wire and said step of the first rolling, an interval between said step of the first rolling and said step of the first sintering, or ii) between said step of the (k-1)th sintering and said step of the kth rolling, or iii) between said step of the kth rolling and said step of the kth sintering is less than seven days; and

setting the temperature of a heater adapted to provide heat to said wire such that said wire is maintained at a substantially constant temperature between greater than or equal to 80 °C and less than or equal to 300 °C for the entire duration of the at least one interval of less than seven days;

wherein the at least one interval is three days; wherein maintaining the temperature of the wire at a substantially constant temperature during the at least one interval occurs for three days.

4. (Cancelled).

5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said wire is held in a container having a reduced pressure atmosphere relative to the pressure outside the container during at least one of the interval between said step of providing a drawn wire and said step of rolling and said interval between said step of rolling and said step of sintering.

6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said wire is held in an atmosphere comprising at least one of nitrogen, argon or dry air during at least one of the interval between said step of providing a drawn wire and said step of rolling and said interval between said step of rolling and said step of sintering.

7. (Cancelled).

8. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 3, wherein said wire is held in a container having a reduced pressure atmosphere relative to the pressure outside the container during at least one of an interval between said step of providing a drawn wire and said step of the first rolling, an interval between said step of the first rolling and said step of the first sintering, an

interval between said step of the $(k-1)^{\text{th}}$ sintering and said step of the k^{th} rolling, and an interval between said step of the k^{th} rolling.

9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 3, wherein said wire held in an atmosphere comprising at least one of nitrogen, argon or dry air during he interval between said step of $(k-1)^{\text{th}}$ sintering and said step of k^{th} rolling and said interval between said step of k^{th} rolling and said step of k^{th} sintering.

10. (Cancelled).

11. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising maintaining the wire temperature greater than or equal to 80 °C and less than or equal to 300 °C during the interval between providing the drawn wire and the rolling.

12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 3, further comprising maintaining the wire temperature greater than or equal to 80 °C and less than or equal to 300 °C during the interval between the providing drawn wire and the rolling.

13. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising holding the wire in a casing during the at least one interval of less than seven days.

14. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 3, further comprising holding the wire in a casing during the at least one interval of less than seven days.

15. – 20. (Cancelled)